

Claims

The claims defining the invention are as follows:

1. A sports board comprising a main portion and an edge portion, the edge portion being separable from the main portion, the edge portion being engageable with the main portion, a connection means providing the interengagement between the main portion and the edge portion to prevent relative movement between the edge portion and the main portion when engaged, the connection means being able to withstand the forces anticipated to be exerted between the edge portion and main portion during use of the sports board.
2. A sports board as claimed at claim 1 wherein, the edge portion is configured to extend along at least a portion of the edge of the main portion.
3. A sports board as claimed at claim 2 wherein, a plurality of edge portions are provided which are each capable of being separately engaged with the portion of the edge to provide a capacity for a variation in shape for the sports board.
4. A sports board as claimed at any one of the preceding claims wherein, the connection means comprises a first engagement portion provided on the edge portion, and a second engagement portion provided on the main portion, the first and second engagement portions being capable of said interengagement, the connection means further comprising a fastening means adapted to retain the first and second engagement portions in said interengagement.
5. A sports board as claimed at claim 4 wherein, the engagement portions are formed as an integral part of the respective edge portion and main portion.

- 14 -

6. A sports board as claimed at claim 4 wherein, the engagement portions are formed as separate elements which are to be incorporated into the respective edge portion and main portion during formation of the main portion and the edge portion.
- 5 7. A sports board as claimed at claim 4, 5 or 6 wherein, the first and second engagement portions comprise complementary formations at the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged, wherein when the complementary formations are in said interengagement the edge portion and main portion are incapable of relative movement transverse to the plane of the sports board.
- 10 8. A sports board as claimed at claim 7 wherein, the complementary formations comprise have a tongue-like configuration on one portion and a complementary groove-like configuration on the other portion.
- 15 9. A sports board as claimed at claim 7 or 8 wherein the complementary formations extend for the full extent of the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged.
- 20 10. A sports board as claimed at claim 7 or 8 or 9 wherein, the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged have an extent which is non-linear.
11. A sports board as claimed at claim 10 wherein the configuration of the extent of the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged is symmetrical about the central axis between the main portion and the edge portion.
- 25 12. A sports board as claimed at claim 11 wherein the configuration is arcuate.
13. A sports board as claimed at claim 12 wherein the configuration is generally sinusoidal.

- 15 -

14. A sports board as claimed at claim 11 wherein the configuration is defined by a set of interconnected straight edges.
15. A sports board as claimed at any one of claims 4 to 14 wherein, the fastening means is located in the region of said interengagement.
- 5 16. A sports board as claimed at claim 15 wherein the interengageable faces of the engagement portions are formed at least in part to provide the fastening means.
17. A sports board as claimed at any one of claims 4 to 15 wherein, the fastening means comprises fixings which are engageable with the engaged engagement portions.
10
18. A sports board as claimed at claim 17 wherein, a plurality of fixings can be engaged at spaced locations along the interengaged faces of the engagement portions.
19. A sports board as claimed at claim 6 wherein and any one of claims 7 to 18 as dependant from claim 6 wherein the non-engaging faces of the engaging means are provided with an extension portion which is intended in use to become embodied with adjacent edge at least of the main portion or edge portion
15
20. A sports board as claimed at any one of the preceding claims wherein, the edge portion comprises a nose section of the sports board.
20
21. A sports board as claimed at any one of claims 1 to 19, the edge portion comprises a pair of opposed rail sections of the sports board.
22. A sports board as claimed at any one of claims 1 to 19, the edge portion comprises a tail section of the sports board.

- 16 -

23. A sports board as claimed at any one of the preceding claims wherein the sports board comprises a surfboard.
24. A sports board substantially as herein described.
25. A connection means comprising a pair of interengagable portions which are capable of connecting the main portion of a sports board with an edge portion an edge portion where the edge portion is separable from the main portion, the edge portion being engageable with the main portion, the connection means providing the interengagement between the main portion and the edge portion to prevent relative movement between the edge portion and the main portion when engaged, the connection means being able to withstand the forces anticipated to be exerted between the edge portion and main portion during use of the sports board.
26. A connection means as claimed at claim 26 wherein the connection means is configured to extend along at least a portion of the edge of the main portion.
27. A connection means as claimed at claim 25 or 26 wherein the connection means comprises a first engagement portion adapted to be mounted on the edge portion, and a second engagement portion adapted to be mounted on the main portion, the first and second engagement portions being capable of said interengagement, the connection means further comprising a fastening means adapted to retain the first and second engagement portions in said interengagement.
28. A connection means as claimed at claim 27 wherein the engagement portions are adapted to be incorporated into the respective edge portion and main portion during formation of the main portion and the edge portion.
29. A connection means as claimed at claim 28 wherein the non-engaging faces of the engaging means are provided with an extension portion which

- 17 -

is intended in use to become embodied with adjacent edge at least of the main portion or edge portion.

30. A connection means as claimed at claims 27 or 28 or 29 wherein, the first and second engagement portions comprise complementary formations at the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged, wherein when the complementary formations are in said interengagement the edge portion and main portion are incapable of relative movement transverse to the plane of the sports board.
- 5
31. A connection means as claimed at claim 27 or 28 or 29 or 30 wherein, the complementary formations comprise have a tongue-like configuration on one portion and a complementary groove-like configuration on the other portion.
- 10
32. A connection means as claimed at any one of claims 27 to 31 wherein the complementary formations extend for the full extent of the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged.
- 15
33. A connection means as claimed at any one of claims 27 to 32 wherein, the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged have an extent which is non-linear.
- 20
34. A connection means as claimed at claim 33 wherein the configuration of the extent of the faces of the edge portion and the main portion which are to be in abutting relationship when interengaged is symmetrical about the central axis between the main portion and the edge portion.
- 25
35. A connection means as claimed at claim 34 wherein the configuration is arcuate.

- 18 -

36. A connection means as claimed at claim 34 or 35 wherein the configuration is generally sinusoidal.
37. A connection means as claimed at claim 34 wherein the configuration is defined by a set of interconnected straight edges.
- 5 38. A connection means as claimed at any one of claims 27 to 37 wherein, the fastening means is located in the region of said interengagement.
39. A connection means as claimed at claim 38 wherein the interengageable faces of the engagement portions are formed at least in part to provide the fastening means.
- 10 40. A connection means as claimed at any one of claims 27 to 39 wherein, the fastening means comprises fixings which are engageable with the engaged engagement portions.
41. A connection means as claimed at any one of claims 27 to 40 wherein a plurality of fixings can be engaged at spaced locations along the
- 15 interengaged faces of the engagement portions.
42. A connection means substantially as herein described: